

2013 SkillsUSA Kentucky Leadership Conference & Skills Championship



Carpentry



Sponsored by: KCUC

***Held at the Indiana/Kentucky/Ohio
Regional Council of Carpenters Training Center***

Written by: Fran Dundon, SkillsUSA KY B & I Director – April 18, 2013

This year's SkillsUSA KY Leadership Conference and Skills Championship served as *the* highlight of the year for 15 carpentry students who had the privilege of competing in the state Carpentry contest. While carpentry has always been a popular contest, contestants hit the jackpot – WHY? Their contest was completely sponsored by the Kentuckiana Construction Users Council - a first in the history of SkillsUSA KY. KCUC provided industry judges, supplies for the competition, and even bought outstanding prizes for first through third place winners. *AND*, it didn't go unnoticed. KCUC's involvement made an impression on both the students, as well as their instructors.

2013 SkillsUSA Kentucky Secondary Carpentry Contest Winners

Sponsored by the Kentuckiana Construction Users Council

"Industry Judges, Contest Supplies and Prizes"



Photo: (L to R): Dave Simmons, Contest Chair, Louisville Water Co. and KCUC member; Austin Galloway, 2nd Place, Breckinridge Co. ATC; PERRY HOSKINSON, 1st place, Warren Co. ATC; Adam Chapin, 3rd place, Garrard Co. ATC and Daren Thompson, MSD Flood Control Supervisor and KCUC President

Hoskins is eligible to compete at the National SkillsUSA Championships in Kansas City, MO from June 24-28. Approximate cost to attend: \$595 registration and lodging, \$100 bus ride; and approximately \$150 food – total: \$845



David Simmons
Louisville Water Company
Manager, Loss Control

➤ **Carpentry Chairman representing KCUC**

“The magnitude of the SkillsUSA Leadership Conference and Skills Championship was awesome. I probably got as much out of the experience as the participants did. What a great, motivated bunch of young men.”



Above: Dennis Shaw, Lowe's Store #1923, goes over project blueprint with Simmons.



Above: Simmons takes a moment to explain a part of the contest to all the participants.

SkillsUSA Motto: Preparing for leadership in the world of work

1st place winner Perry Hoskinson working on his project during competition



Hoskinson is a carpentry student under the direction of Instructor Greg Blewett, KY Tech-Warren Co. ATC.

Hoskinson:

"When I heard my name called for first place, I was so excited that I had won. One reason I was so excited was because I knew I wasn't the first one done. Then I found out that I had won a DeWalt tool set, so I was even more excited. Thank you, KCUC. The DeWalt tool set is great and it will help me out in my future career."

Greg Blewett:

"Perry Hoskinson winning at state tells me that I am on track with my program. We as teachers use the feedback from the industry judges to improve our programs. The industry based judges have a very real feel for what they need and what they want to hire. The support from KCUC is priceless to all of us and we appreciate their efforts for our students because they will be the next generation of employees."

Austin Galloway, 2nd place winner from KY Tech-Breckinridge Co. ATC



Galloway is a student under the direction of Tim Stinnett, carpentry instructor at the KY Tech-Breckinridge Co. ATC.

"It's an awesome prize and very appropriate for carpentry," said Galloway. "I want to thank KCUC for making this possible."

"It is wonderful for the students to receive a nice prize for all their hard work," said instructor Joe Stinnett. "Thank you KCUC."

**Tom Thompson, Principal
KY Tech-Breckinridge Co. ATC**

"We need more industries to step up to the plate for our students. After all, they are the future leaders and workforce that will be making our economy grow. I am pleased to know that the Kentuckiana Construction Users Council helped in judging the contest and raising the money for prizes. Without the help of such generous people, our student organizations would not be as successful as they are."

Adam Chapin, 3rd place winner from KY Tech-Garrard Co. ATC

Adam Chapin is a student under the direction of Charles (Mike) Oakley, carpentry instructor at the KY Tech-Garrard Co. ATC.

Chapin:

"I have enjoyed preparing for my future in the construction industry. I am very thankful to KCUC for the excellent prize I won. You can bet I will use it when I enter the industry because good tools are important in our type of work. It's obvious that KCUC knows this because of what they provided."

Oakley:

"It is certainly encouraging that organizations such as KCUC are willing to support and sponsor our young people. It is quite an honor to help prepare these young people for the future. Thanks to all those who organize, participate and donate (time and prizes) in these competitions."



Additional Sponsorship for winning instructors...Congratulations to:

- Carpentry Instructor Greg Blewett, KY Tech-Warren Co. ATC teacher of 1st place carpentry winner - Perry Hoskinson***
- Masonry Instructor Jimmy Porter, KY Tech-C.E. McCormick ATC advisor for 1st place TeamWorks: KY Tech-C.E. McCormick ATC Team***

While all of the positive sponsorship made a great impact on SkillsUSA student competitors, KCUC went a step further than their original \$3,000 donation. Five additional companies stepped up to the plate to buy the winners their prizes and two gift cards were purchased, for winning instructors, from Jeff Ruby's Steak House. Blewett and Porter will enjoy a nice dinner with their wives.

Thank you to the following companies for their additional support of SkillsUSA KY:

- Abel Construction***
- Comstock Brothers Electric***
- Cardinal Industrial Insulation***
- Hall Contracting of Kentucky***
- MAC Construction and Excavating***

SkillsUSA Motto: Preparing for leadership in the world of work

Dave Worden (red shirt), National SkillsUSA Program Director, confers with KCUC carpentry judges at the Carpenter's Union.



At right: KCUC Carpentry Chairman Dave Simmons (middle), discusses half roof project with Gary Snellen (l) and Josh Lichtsteiner (r), both members of the Carpenters and Millwrights Union.



KCUC members served as industry judges for the carpentry contest and the outstanding level of professionalism in conducting the competitive event was a testament to what industry partners bring to the table.

“This is a major goal of SkillsUSA KY because it provides mutually beneficial partnerships for all of our skilled competitions,” said Fran Dundon, SkillsUSA KY B & I director. “We are the student organization that companies in our state should be involved with because we are the ‘skills’ organization serving teachers and high school and college students who are preparing for careers in trade, technical, and skilled service occupations. It’s a natural fit for all of us to work together . KCUC made a difference – for students and their instructors. Thank you.”

“KCUC intends to continue its involvement and support of SkillsUSA,” said Mike Sleder, KCUC executive director.



Photo at left: Fran Dundon, SkillsUSA KY Business and Industry Director, recognizes Daren Thompson and KCUC for being a 2013 SkillsUSA KY Gold Power Partner.

**Daren Thompson
Flood Protection Supervisor, MSD
KCUC President:**

“Our KCUC membership was energized in being the sole sponsor of the carpentry contest at the 2013 SkillsUSA Kentucky State Skills Championship. As a construction trades and training organization, we are well in tune with workforce shortages that will occur over the next few years.

“Participating as judges in the SkillsUSA KY competition was nothing short of rewarding. It provided us with a better understanding of the talent

and skills levels of students who will be entering our industry over the next few years. We were all pleased to observe how students took pride in their work to compete for awesome prizes supplied by KCUC. Their level of commitment and work ethic was encouraging to all of our judges. Members of our organization were also involved in judging leadership events and I was personally encouraged to see how well the students competed in Job Skill Demo O.

“KCUC understands the value of how SkillsUSA can help build skilled talent and we undoubtedly believe this will help bridge the gap in the skilled trades shortage. We also appreciate Fran Dundon for her efforts in creating a worthwhile pathway for our participation. As members of KCUC, we are excited to be in a partnership with SkillsUSA to build what we want to see - the best talent pool in the nation. We look forward to continuing this partnership next year... and, to form collaborative efforts in building technical committees for the SkillsUSA National Conference coming to Louisville in 2015. All of this is important to our industry and we want to be involved at the cutting edge of this progression.”